

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**

UNITED STATES ARMY INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY COMMAND FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY OFFICE FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5995

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF:

Freedom of Information/ Privacy Office 2 2 AUG 2013

Mr. Trevor Griffey

Dear Mr. Griffey:

This responds to your electronic Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of September 16, 2012, to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), requesting information pertaining to Mr. Robert Welch before 1975. The FBI, on August 1, 2013, forwarded your request along with Army-originated records retrieved from their files, for a releasability determination. This correspondence was received in this office on August 16, 2013.

As a result of our review, it has been determined that the information is partially releasable to you and enclosed for your use.

Since the release of some of the information deleted from the records would result in an unwarranted invasion of the privacy rights of the individuals concerned, this information is exempt from the public disclosure provisions of the FOIA per Title 5 U.S. Code 552 (b)(6).

Information has been sanitized and nine pages are withheld from the records as the release of the information would reveal sensitive intelligence methods. This information is exempt from public disclosure pursuant to Title 5 U.S. Code 552 (b)(7)(E) of the FOIA. The significant and legitimate governmental purpose to be served by withholding is that a viable and effective intelligence investigative capability is dependent upon protection of sensitive investigative methodologies. It is not possible to reasonably segregate meaningful portions of the withheld pages for release.

The withholding of the information described above is a partial denial of your request. This denial is made on behalf of Major General Stephen G. Fogarty, Commander, U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command, who is the Initial Denial Authority for Army intelligence investigative and security records under the FOIA. You have the right to appeal this decision to the Secretary of the Army. Your appeal must be postmarked no later than 60 calendar days from the date of this letter. After the 60-day period, the case may be considered closed; however, such closure does not preclude you from filing litigation in the courts. You should state the basis of your disagreement with the response and provide justification for a reconsideration of the denial. An appeal may not serve as a request for additional or new information. An appeal may only address information denied in this response. Your appeal is to be made to this office, for forwarding, as appropriate to the Secretary of the Army, Office of the General Counsel.

There are no assessable FOIA fees.

We are forwarding a copy of this letter to the FBI (FBI FOI/PA #1189082-002).

If you have any questions regarding this action, feel free to contact this office at 1-866-548-5651, or email the INSCOM FOIA office at: <u>usarmy.meade.902-mi-grp.mbx.inscom-foia-service-center@mail.mil</u> and refer to case #3671F-13.

Sincerely,

Brad S. Dorris

Director

Freedom of Information/Privacy Office Investigative Records Repository

Enclosure



HEADNUARTERS

EPARTMENT OF THE A

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF FOR INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

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MEMORANDUM FOR: J. EDGAR HOOVER Director, Federal Bu	reau of Investig	ation	
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HEENT REPORT ROBERT WELCE, INCORPORATED ..... Balmont 78, Massachmeetts (b)(7)(E) L MANUAL OF PRIN andress waknows; who appropried the position now until his release, by Welch, in tagest 1959, formesees held by b6 unknown to Source. | b6 one connected with an organization called the Liberty Lobby, and Source recalls reading meterial written by him and published in the name of the Liberty Lobby, San Francisco, California, which was extremely vitriolic in its criticism of Freedont Elsenhower for his alleged pro-Hegre and pro-Semitism. The John Birch Society was named in hemor of Jehn Birch, an American Baptish missionary, who was killed, according to Welch, by the Chinese Communists, on 25 August 1985. A book, entitled, "The Life of John Birch", written by Welch, was published in 195h by the Henry Regnery Company. The ultimate aim of the Society is to become a third political party in the United States and, eventually, rule of the country. This is to be accomplished by uniting all enti-Communist organisations and individuals under the leadership of the John Rirch Society. Source could not cite specifics as concerns the progres of evaluation into a political force. According to b6 the Society is presently organized into approximately 36 separate chapters, with a total membership of 1290 persons. Source is personally swere of the existence of chapters in Belmont and Beston, but has seen correspondence from chapters in Chicago, Illiania; New York City, and unknown cities in California and Florida. Each chapter is required to have a weekly meeting, which is hold in the home of the chapter leader. In Belmont, the meeting is on Thursday, in the home of b6 Discussion is supposed to center around the Weekly Smiletin, which is written and edited by Welch, personally, and mailed to each chapter. A taped reproduction of the speech made by Welch, at the organisstion meeting in January 1959, is on hand in each chapter. This tape, six hours in length, is used whenever the chapter receives a request fer a speaker. Normal procedure is to divide the speech into three sessions of two hours each. The taped speech is used because Welch does not desire individual Semisty numbers to make speeches; they only make introductory remarks and ensum tuestions after the tape has been heard. Society members are to be slert to or contunities to present the taped lectures, through normal social, church, an 'r siness contacts. Welch stresses contact with Cathelia organizations because, although a Protestant himself, he feels that the Catholic church 16 more militant in its stand against Communica. The decision to present the talled speech is made only by the chapter leader, who personally makes the ureasutation. A party of interested persons is usually held at the bose of the of the corrects and, after a brief discussion, the taped speech is preser' -d. b6 of the Boston chapter, is particularly active in (Continued) THE BANK ... CHRANEZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT & MORNTHAN OF SPRING AGEST

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AGENT, REPORT

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ROBERT WELCH, INCORPORATED Belmont 78, Massachusetts 2. MATE SHOWS THE

16 December 1959

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A REPORT OF PROMOS

organizing these sectings. Response to the initial two-beer session determines whether sectings will be held to present the two remaining two-beer sections. No notes or other method of reproduction are permitted at these meetings. Source is unaware of any presentations being made to members of the military, either individually or in groups; however, in August er September 1959, Weigh spoke at the Harvard Club, New York City; and Source recalls typing invitations to two retired and one active duty U. S. Army general officers; names not recalled. Source does not know whether they attended or not. SUBJECT made at least one previous speaking appearance at the Harvard Club in New York City, details unknown.

Persons who srow interest in taking active participation in antiCommunist activity, after attending a taped session, are given the opportunity
to join the Society. Source is unaware of any specific investigations conoutted on new members, but is sware that inquiries are made, on a personal
basis, through social contacts. A new member is given a membership card and
sims a request for membership. Members pay \$2 per month dues; however, those
who can afford to, pay more. Each chapter leader is required to submit a
monthly report to Society Headquarters, covering meetings, membership, and
activities. There reports are all maintained by \$\int\_06\$ who acts as
coordinator, and reports all pertinent information to Welch.

Welch has prepared a so-called "Blue Book" which is an entline of his taped speech, but which is much more moderate in its approach, to the extent of the Communist penetration of the United States Government, since it is intended for male to the general public. As of September 1959, this book had not been printed.

At the time of the visit to the United States by Seviet Premier Khrushchev, instructions as to how Society members should act, specifies unknown, were sent out by Welch, together with black are bands, which were to be worn by Society members for the duration of Khrushchevis visit.

Source heard discussions as to the possibility of shoeting Khrushchev, but doesn't believe that the conversants were actually serious in their intent.

It is planned that a moving plature of Welch, presenting his speech, will be made and stillised in lies of the taped varsion. Welch has stated that \$20,000 has been pledged for this purpose. Puture plans also will for the establishment of reading recome containing anti-Communist literature to be open to the general public. All chapters have been required to written saterial from the Society.

Other than activities extlined above, Source is wheneve of any specific activities undertaken by the John Sirch Senisty. Source provided (Continued)

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ROBERT WELCH, INCORPORATED BELLOCK 78, Massachusetts

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A Ristory of Publishers

The monthly magestme american Opinion, miblished by Monthly, Interested, prints eight thousand coales monthly, appreximately half of which are peid for by subscription. The remainder are smiled to persons the may be interested. A small number are distributed by b6 to various dries stores and other stores where magestore are sold for general selfs to the public. Issues are sailed to prospective customers whose means are sold through the John Birch Soulety, other Welch sympathians, and archains of mailing lists with other anti-Commentat publications, details unknown. In addition to articles written by b6 and solding, which receives asterial from b6 a former member of the staff of the late U. S. Senator Joseph HcCarthy, albert C. Medesager, depend, USA (retired) and frequently receives material from the Office of U. S. Senator Barry Coldinator. Source believes that b6 is on Welch's payroll.

Welch edits all material appearing in the magazine and miles many articles himself. In addition to the magazine, Welch published many pumphists which are distributed free and sold through advantaments in American Deinion Source can recall two: "Report of american Bar Association" and Many People Decome Communists". Source particularly recalls the latter because, in the Welch files, she saw a magazine published by a legal publishing house, from which Welch copies his pemphist. The Welch people does not indicate its source.

b6 was merigned by Welch to ergunder with filter. They are not maintained in a conventional manner, but are divided last on merican as directed by Welch. Included in the breakdown are 10 film on Committee divided into sections such as Committee in Overmant, Convention, Scotting, Labor, etc. These files are also divided into generalizations in this country and throughout the world.

Extensive files are maintained on leading politically military, and business leaders of the world: Typical selections under this section of Communists are: U. S. Senator John Leanedy, General of the America Court in Harshall, deceased, farmer Freedman Barry S. Transp and Freeding D. Receivald as well as the United States Sepress Court and the American Sec Associations.

The material for these files is selected by Miles Commissioners and material received from tentropy sources, he include a second files to imposses he may be incommissed to set the second and for time and personalistics and personalistics and personalistics and personalistics and personalistics and the files such as J. Afgar Hoover, Herbert Houser, Septent Philippin and Compass Advancer, Welch uses the files for research material when preparing a speech or writing an article.

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MANE OF MINDET ON THE C IF MICHOEST ROBERT WELCH, INCORPORATED Belmont 76, Massachusetts & MERCHT OF PARAMOS Money for ROBERT WELCH, INCORPORATED, in stighting Source heard S'4 "Of soliciting funds from acquaintender time by telephone, to assist him to combat the coming wint of the state of "nited States. Course heard Welch comment that he had received place \$100,000. This money was spent by the Committee Against Juneal Principles and which, : not operated entirely by Wolch, is cordinary many the following the principles of the control of th Much of this money was spent in full-page newspeper advertises against the viit of Khrushchev and urging the public to contagt their congress men. Source be theves that Welch received money from his brother, name unknown, who operates ' a James O. Welch Candy Company, 810 Main Street, Cambridge. told Source that Welch left the business just prior. to January 17 , because of his brother's insistence that he not get the candy business involved in his anti-Communist activities. At the same time, Welch was to be, by his brother, to establish a bank account separate from that maintained in the name of the cardy company. In Sentember 1939, Source quit her position with Welch because of a distaste for tre type of work being conducted by him, which seemed to Source to be striking? "imilar to the activities of Ritler prior to his rise to-COMOT. Source stated that she told much of the foregoing to b6 of the German Consulate and, in reply to her query, he advised Source not report this information to the Federal Bureau of Imestigation. 10 th -710 Group

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## ASENT REPORT

ROBERT WELCH, THOUSPORATED

Belmont 78, Massachusetts

16 December 1959 I CONTRACT STREET, OR PALE MAN

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4. REPORT OF PRODUCE

(CITIZENSHIP) On 16 December 1959, the files of the Designation and Naturalization Service, 150 Tremont Street, Boston, Massachusetts, were examferner employee of Hobert Welck, and reined comerning b6
vealed the following imformation:

> Name Date of Birth: Place of Birth: Last Foreign Residence: Residence:

Marital Status: Childrens Date of Arrival in United States: Port of Arrival: Occupations

Myoreed b6 5 June 1959

How York, New York **b**6

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AGENT REPORT

NAME OF REPORT OR TITLE OF PRODUCT

HOBERT WELCH, INCORPORATED Belmont 78, Hassachusetts

22 December 1959
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(LOCAL A'ENCIES) The files of the following agencies were checked concerning b6 source of information concerning SUBJECT, on dates shown with results indicated:

18 December 1959 Hassachusette Board of Probation,

No Record

Boston, Massachusetts

18 December 1959 Bureau of Identification, Boston, Massachusetts

No Record

AGENT'S ACTIVE: The Massachusetts Board of Probation is a central repository for all seconds of arrest which result in conviction in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Records of arrests for drunkenness and some miner traffic violations which do not result in conviction are recorded for court reference. Massachusetts law forbinds the disclosure of arrest or conviction records for offenses committed prior to an individual's seventeenth birthday.

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